

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 28

Introduced by Assembly Members Chesbro and John A. Pérez
(Coauthor: Senator Pavley)

February 24, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 28—Relative to Earth Hour.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 28, as introduced, Chesbro. Earth Hour.

This measure would endorse efforts to raise awareness of global climate change and energy efficiency and would declare the hour of 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on the last Saturday of March to be “Earth Hour” throughout the state. The measure would encourage city, county, and state employees, and businesses to turn off nonessential lights in government buildings, public schools, public landmarks, and other buildings for that hour on March 26, 2011.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Communities throughout California are affected
2 by the impacts of global warming and are gravely concerned about
3 the future health of our planet; and
4 WHEREAS, There is growing public support for action to stop
5 global warming, and communicating a desire for change regarding
6 matters that impact our lives, such as global warming, is an
7 important part of democracy; and
8 WHEREAS, Earth Hour is both an international and local
9 symbolic event organized by the World Wildlife Fund to raise
10 awareness about climate change issues, and to encourage
11 businesses, individuals, and governments to take actions to reduce

1 their carbon emissions and their impact on the environment in their
2 daily lives and operations; and

3 WHEREAS, Earth Hour asks all citizens, businesses,
4 governmental agencies, and commercial and noncommercial
5 establishments to voluntarily turn off all nonessential lighting for
6 one hour beginning at 8:30 p.m. on March 26, 2011, and
7 encourages citizens and businesses to commit to actions they can
8 take in the coming year to reduce their carbon footprints and
9 conserve energy; and

10 WHEREAS, This state has long been a national and international
11 leader on energy conservation and environmental stewardship
12 efforts, including the areas of air quality protection, energy
13 efficiency requirements, renewable energy standards, natural
14 resource conservation, and greenhouse gas emission standards;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Earth Hour is an opportunity for state agencies and
17 community energy awareness programs to promote information
18 and tools available to residents and businesses to increase energy
19 efficiency and decrease emissions and use of natural resources;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Extinguishing nonessential lights in all state
22 buildings and public landmarks for one hour and urging all
23 businesses and citizens to do the same demonstrates that the state
24 is concerned about climate change, that it stands with the rest of
25 the world in seeking solutions, and that it demands all elected
26 leaders to act immediately to take measures that will help fight
27 global climate change, including enacting environmentally
28 important legislation; and

29 WHEREAS, Turning off all nonessential lights in government
30 buildings and public landmarks will serve as an important rallying
31 point for the worldwide energy conservation event, Earth Hour;
32 now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature endorses the efforts by
35 the World Wildlife Fund, through Earth Hour, to raise awareness
36 of global climate change and energy efficiency; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages all city, county, and
38 state employees, as well as businesses in the state to turn off all
39 nonessential lighting in government buildings, public schools,
40 public landmarks, and business establishments for the hour between

1 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on March 26, 2011, to conserve energy
2 and raise awareness about global climate change as part of the
3 international event, Earth Hour; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Legislature declares the last Saturday in
5 March, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. to be “Earth Hour” throughout the
6 state; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
8 of this resolution to the office of the Governor, the Secretary of
9 the Senate, and the author for appropriate distribution.

O